Dewan.—I have no intention to stop you. On principle, I am against such personal attacks being made here. For, the officers themselves may not be here and, even if they were here, they have no chance of replying to the Members or defending themselves against their attacks.

I may add, for your personal information and for the information of such of you as may not know it, that Mr. Cunningham is a Police officer who possesses high reputation and who has been held all along in great esteem by the Madras Government and this Government.

Member.—Unfortunately, we have not been able to know it. But what I object to is the policy of borrowing the services of British officers. For, they are not bound by the Travancore Service Regulations and by the time they understand the people, they have to go away. However, out of deference to your ruling I shall omit the remaining portion of this part of my representation.

The Member then proposed that a Competitve Examination for admission to Public service should be instituted. He explained the evils arising from the want of any test of the kind recommended by him. There should also be a definite system of graded service so as to hold out better prospects for brilliant men with qualifications.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

142. Suggestions on general administration of the State.

Mr. Thariathu Kunjithomman (Member, MuvattupuzhaTaluk) said that, as the people were agricultural, the first step to be taken was to increase the production of paddy in the State. The Agricultural Department was doing all it could, but the people should have the precedent condition, *viz.*, education, to follow the advice of the department. Next, they should have means of communication. Those defects were specially prominent in North Travancore. The elevation of the depressed classes to which Government had been devoting themselves of late was desirable. The condition of those people in North Travancore was really deplorable. There were large tracts of land available for registry. If small plots of one acre were set apart for registry among them, they would be largely benefited. In regard to education, the intention of Government and the efforts of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction were not likely to fructify, unless it was ruled that a teacher should have in his class at least 3 or 4 pupils from the depressed classes. The Revenue Department should be thrown open to all classes of His Highness' subjects.

Mr. M. A. Navarkani Rowther (Member, T. I. C., Changanacherry) said that he had nothing to add to what had been stated by Mr. G. Raman Menon, Member Karunagapalli taluk and that he would only emphasize the question of communal representation.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly rose for the day at 6 P. M.

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